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7	Washington, DC	20554	PINED
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In the Matter of)	FLERM	1999
)	OF	COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION 1
Price Cap Performance Review)	CC Docket No. 94-	1 SECRETARY
For Local Exchange Carriers)	-	
)		
Access Charge Reform)	CC Docket No. 96-	262
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<u>U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.</u> IN SUPPORT OF PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

U S WEST Communications, Inc. ("U S WEST") hereby supports the Petition for Extension of Time By the United States Telecom Association ("USTA"), 1 requesting a limited extension of time for filing comments and replies to the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 2 currently scheduled for December 30, 1999 and January 14, 2000, respectively.

As noted by USTA, the end determination of the highly-complex issues raised in the <u>FNPRM</u> will have a profound impact on the price cap local exchange carriers. The complex nature of the various options proffered by the Federal Communications Commission ("Commission") regarding the prescription/represcription of the X-factor will require extensive study and analysis. Due to the late release of the Commission staff's studies -- posted in final form on December 2, 1999 -- additional

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¹ Petition for Extension of Time By the United States Telecom Association, filed herein on Dec. 6, 1999 ("USTA Petition").

² Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, CC Docket Nos. 94-1 and 96-262, FCC 99-345, rel. Nov. 15, 1999 ("FNPRM").

time is required to adequately analyze and prepare a response.³ Additionally, the date for filing comments falls on December 30, 1999, a date on which U S WEST will be operating in Y2K mode.

Moreover, it would be very beneficial to have an additional week to file reply comments. It is likely that the comments filed in this proceeding will contain extensive data and studies that will have to be analyzed.⁴

U S WEST is concerned that it may be negatively impacted if there is insufficient time to fully respond to the Commission's <u>FNPRM</u>. Therefore, U S WEST supports USTA's Petition and requests that the Commission extend the filing due dates for comments to until January 7, 2000 and reply comments to January 31, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

By:

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Its Attorney

Of Counsel, Dan L. Poole

December 10, 1999

³ See USTA Petition at 2.

⁴ <u>Id.</u> at 3.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Kelseau Powe, Jr., do hereby certify that on this 10th day of December, 1999, I have caused a copy of the foregoing U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. IN SUPPORT OF PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME to be served, via first class United States mail, postage prepaid, upon the persons listed on the attached service list.

Kelseau Powe, Jr.

^{*}Served via hand delivery

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Last Update: 12/10/99